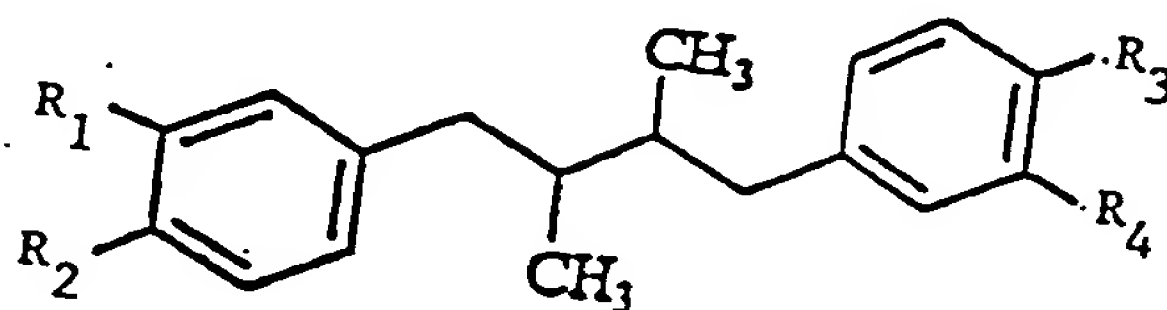


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for suppressing undesired viral growth in a host which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



wherein R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are independently selected from the group consisting of HO-, CH₃O- and CH₃(C=O)O-. The method is exemplified by inhibiting Tat transactivation of a lentivirus and in suppressing Herpes simplex virus.